# SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION





### Dedicated to the men who served on this great fighting ship!

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3 July 2013

EDITOR: LANNY YESKE LTJG 61-63 PUBLISHER: BILL DUKACZ IC 67-68

### **CONFEDERATE CHARLESTON WAITS**

Scarlett O'Hara hated it. Rhett Butler called it home and could not wait to return. As the birthplace of the Confederacy, 73 pre-revolutionary war buildings and another 2,000 homes dating from the 1800s are waiting for your arrival. Not a single high-rise mars the steeple dotted skyline of this often called "Holy City." The full agenda for the 29 April-3 May 2014 Reunion is in the April 2013 Newsletter. In the next few issues, we will highlight some of the events not to be missed starting with the Submarine Hunley and Magnolia Cemetery.

Hunley, built in Mobile in July 1863 and then shipped to Charleston, was a very streamlined 40 foot submarine. It had a volunteer crew of eight with seven to turn the hand-cranked propeller and one to steer. It was equipped with ballast tanks that could be flooded or hand pumped dry. There were also iron weights bolted to the underside. So if emergency buoyancy was needed, the weights could be removed by unscrewing the heads of the bolts from inside. There were two small watertight hatches and two conning towers with portholes. She had a four knot speed and two hour endurance. The hull height was 4 feet. Periscope? No, just a telescope! Lighting? Just candles! Then, on a test dive, the diving plane controller was accidently tripped causing a dive with open hatches and five of the crew drowned. Then it again sank on a dive losing her entire crew including Captain Horace Hunley. Both times she was returned to service. Note Hunley was operated by the Army under General P. Beauregard, and not the Navy. Hunley's weapon, a floating explosive charge with contact fuse, was towed at the end of a long rope. She was to approach the target, dive under it, and surface beyond it. As it continued to move away, this torpedo would be pulled against the ship and explode. However, this plan was discarded due to the danger of the line fouling in her screw or drifting into Hunley. So it was replaced with a spar torpedo, a cylinder containing 90 pounds of black powder attached to a 22 foot long spar mounted on her bow. It had a barbed point, and by ramming would be stuck in the target's wooden hull. A mechanical trigger was attached by rope to Hunley, so as she backed away the charge would explode. After the second sinking, General Beauregard said no to a submarine attack, so a pipe was attached to the bow and angled downwards to deliver the charge underwater to make it more effective.

Hunley made her first and only attack on 17 February 1864 against the USS Housatonic, a 1240 ton steam powered man-of-war with 12 large cannons stationed at the entrance to Charleston. The naval blockade was crippling Charleston. It was of 207 foot length, 38 foot beam and crew of 160. Hunley successfully embedded the torpedo, and as she backed away detonation occurred sending Housatonic to the bottom in five minutes. The very first warship to be lost to a submarine. However, Hunley failed to return. Her fate remained a mystery for 131 years, when in 1995 a search led (arguably) by adventurer Clive Cussler located her wreck. There is evidence that the Hunley survived for an hour. She may have been unintentionally rammed by the USS Canandaigua when she was coming to the aid of Housatonic. Another possibility is that the torpedo malfunctioned too early and also took Hunley. Examination of the wreck, with its crew still aboard and at their stations, found it 100 yards away from Housatonic in 27 feet of water. It was buried under several feet of silt which protected it. The divers exposed the forward hatch and the air box for the snorkel attachment for positive identification. She was resting on her starboard side at a 45 degree angle and was covered in a half inch of rust bonded with sand and seashell. Hunley was extremely well preserved.

On August 2000, following extensive analysis and great care to avoid any damage, Hunley was raised and taken to the Warren Lasch Conservation Center at the former Charleston Naval Base. It was placed in a specifically designed tank of fresh water for preservation. In 2011, Hunley was rotated upright for the first time since 1864, taken out of the water, and is now on display. The Director of the Naval Historical Center described her as "probably the most important American underwater archaeological find of the 20th century." The submarine is valued at more than

\$40 million. In 2004 the identified remains of the final crew were laid to rest at Magnolia Cemetery. Tens of thousands of people attended. Those submariners joined the first two crews buried at the 128 acre Cemetery which was once a rice plantation. Four of the first crew were found underneath the Citadel football stadium in 1999. The fifth under a parking lot in 2000. All were reinterred at Magnolia. The Hunley family plot contains the second crew. Our own Reunion Chairman Jon Nagle and family were there in 2004 as participants. He said the procession was over 10 miles long for this "Last Civil War Funeral" and a most moving experience.

There are over 35,000 burials at Magnolia including 2,200 Civil War veterans. Magnolia has been described as the best kept secret in Charleston. See photos on Page 12. Many politicians and military leaders are interred here including billionaire George Trenholm, Secretary of the Confederate Treasury and a major donator, whom many believe to have been the real Rhett Butler. He loved Charleston. So will you. Come on and see for yourself!

#### USS SEA POACHER REGISTRATION FORM

## NATIONAL REUNION – CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

### **April 29 – MAY 3, 2014**

(To be printed and mailed in....this is not for online registration)

Name:	Spouse/Guest:		
Other Attendees:			
Address	City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:		
tions can be made by callir ion to get the special rate This rate includes full bre	Mount Pleasant, 250 Johnnie Dodds Blvd, ag the Hotel directly at 843-884-6000. Tell to f \$149.00 (plus tax) per room per night akfast daily and is good for both three datarch 30, 2014 will then be on a space availa	them you're with the (Single, Double, Trip lys prior and after th	Sea Poacher Reur le and Quad rate e Reunion. Room
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	OR THE FOLLOWING REUNION ACTI IN THE ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES B		T \$285.00 PER
# of a	ctivity packages x \$285.00 per person =	Total of \$	
Ma	ke your check payable to USS Sea Poac		

Make your check payable to USS Sea Poacher Association and mail this completed registration form to: Bill Brinkman, President USS Sea Poacher Association 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street Round Rock, TX 78665-9466

The Activity Package includes for all days the Hospitality Suite with a full bar and snacks open generally from 0600 to 2345 and bus transportation to all of the events. In particular:

- April 29: Welcome aboard packet/tote bag with name badges and welcome barbeque dinner.
- April 30: Tour of Fort Moultrie including lunch and Charleston harbor dinner cruise.
- May 1: Fort Sumter tour, lunch at CPO mess on Aircraft Carrier Yorktown followed by tours of Yorktown, Submarine Clamagore and Destroyer Laffey.
- May 2: Tolling of the Bells, Confederate States Submarine Hunley tour, lunch at The Citadel with marriage vow renewal, Citadel long grey line parade, and Banquet dinner (coat and tie requested).
- May 3: Breakfast and departure unless you are planning to stay longer.

And we have not even touched on the Peruvian SAPO Sweepstakes, Silent Auction, or Banquet Speakers. You will be sent more information on the reunion, hotel, several other attractions including plantation tours, and other material after we receive your registration form and check. Contact Bill Brinkman at 512-255-0285 or Jon Nagle at jknmm1ss@gmail.com if you have any questions at all. We look forward to seeing you!

# **ANOTHER SEA POACHER HERO**

We've had our share! Consider Commissioning Crew Chief Electrician Frank Wesley Nettleship, Junior, from Washington State, who enlisted in 1929 at age 16 and served for 22 years. Nothing could be found on his first 11 years, but as a submariner he surprisingly received the Silver Star Medal in 1944 with few details as to why. Then, Frank is in a mysterious 1953 fishing boat explosion and is never found. Here is an unforgettable story!

Via a Ralph Cobb LTJG 44-45 email, Bill Brinkman and your Editor have been working with Frank III on this for months. It's an amazing story and merits the making of a Hollywood movie. Frank marries Helen in 1937 with son Frank III born in 1940. They meet only twice with the last in 1943 as shown below. Helen and Frank divorce shortly thereafter.



From 1940 to mid-1941, as an EM1, he is stationed on Submarine R1 (SS-78) in Panama. Then it is on the Grenadier (SS-210), where he participates in the search for the sunken Submarine 09 (SS-70). He then takes Grenadier to Fremantle, Australia for 1942 World War II operations.

Frank is then transferred to the Submarine Tender Pelias (AS-14) which survived the Pearl Harbor attack. Had he remained on Grenadier, Frank would have joined the rest of the crew as Japanese prisoners of war following its sinking, resurfacing and subsequent scuttling. Frank takes Pelias through refit in San Francisco, and then back to Australia where he is a member of the Flag Allowance and Submarine Relief Crew which appears to be a special and honored place reserved for the best crew replacements. Note that Pelias will repair/refit 59 submarines between 1942-44, and the Japanese would have been better served had they sunk her rather than the battleships at Pearl Harbor.

Frank then goes to Triton (SS-201) in 1942 and is promoted to Chief. He takes her through an extended refit after Patrol 5 and is transferred to Grayling (SS-209). Triton is lost at sea with all hands on the very next patrol.

He then makes Patrols 6 and 7 on Grayling through July 1943. On 7 he is awarded the Silver Star, our third highest military award. So what happened? You can read the patrol report on the Internet. Grayling has all sorts of electrical problems including #4 Main Generator plus the starboard main motor and reduction gears. The fathometer and gyroscope are also out of commission. Specific details are not given on what he did, except as Chief Electrician he may have saved the boat. The Silver Star is only given "for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States."

Frank's Silver Star citation in the June 1944 All Hands Bulletin states: "Throughout the hazardous patrols of his submarine in Japanese waters, he maintained the electrical apparatus in excellent condition. On one occasion he effected ingenious and expeditious repairs to special equipment which later resulted in the damaging of one hostile vessel, and the beaching of another and, subsequently, the complete destruction of two more." He is then transferred to the Bowfin (SS-287) and just misses Grayling's Patrol 8 in which she is lost with all hands. This is the third submarine sinking that he barely misses.

On Bowfin for the rest of 1943, he makes her first two war patrols in which they sink five major tanker/ freighters and severely damage two more as well as a half-dozen other vessels. The patrol reports by Captain W.T. Griffith are very graphic. The Bowfin survives WWII and is currently on proud display/touring near the Battleship Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor.

During the first part of 1944, Frank is assigned to Puffer (SS-268), before being transferred to Sea Poacher in Portsmouth on the day she is commissioned. Accordingly he is not seen in the commissioning photos. However, he is front row second from the right in both the Midway crew photo and crew photo with Japanese Submarine 51. Again, it is back to the Pacific where he makes our first three patrols. Lester Murray, Ralph Cobb, Fred Brattain, and George Boyajian probably all have stories of him. After that he becomes an Advanced Training Instructor in New London, with later duty on Sablefish (SS-303), Submarine Tender Clytie (AS-26), some unknown station from1946 to 1948, and finally to the Seaplane Tender Gardiners Bay (AVP-39) where he retires in 1950 in San Diego.

Frank owns a 38 foot commercial tuna fishing vessel named LA VON. On 26 October 1953, the boat explodes offshore Morro Bay. The only things recovered are a hatch cover and a few pieces of the boat. He was alone on the trip and is never found. At precisely the end of six months, the Coast Guard closes their files on the incident, but from their own records conducted no at-sea search and only issued harbor checks and alerts. Their list of Coast Guard Maritime Casualties, 1947 to Present, does not even cite this event.

Son Frank III has been stalemated by this. California has come up with nothing, and without proof of death he cannot get DOD to release his Father's military records. Also, there has been no issuance of a death certificate for surviving family members to receive any military or social security benefits which they are entitled to. Frank III noted that the LA VON had a diesel engine which meant it was extremely unlikely to explode. He also said that other family members told him the FBI investigated the accident for seven years, and other boats in the area witnessed the explosion. Some of his family believes that explosives were placed onboard in a possible act of revenge of jealousy over a woman. Lester Murray called him a "Ladies Man." How much of that is true? Who knows?

In February 2013 Frank III made another effort to obtain information from the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis and received in March a Certification of Military Service on his Dad as well as a Certification of Casualty, and a DD214 on service separation. These show his Father had remarried, and had both NSLI and USGLI Insurance with premiums continuing afterward. It also listed the Silver Star and seven other medals including the Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. This is at the same level for individual heroism leading to the Navy Cross. Again, and like the Silver Star medal, the submarine associated with this Citation is not specifically named.

The Nettleships are a military family. Frank Senior in 1910 was a 22 year old Seaman at the Naval Yard Mare Island. At age 54, he also had a 1942 WWII Registration Card from the USS YORKTOWN. Frank III was on active naval duty in Viet Nam from 1966-68 and continued with reserve duty until 1975 as a Lieutenant Commander. He is currently practicing full time as a dentist on the Oregon Coast. He and wife Janet live on a 30 acre farm surrounded by a federal wildlife refuge. They don't farm but have horses, llamas and geese. They also have four children living in Oregon including one year old grandson Frank V. One son Wesley served in the Army as a tank mechanic.

Sea Poacher has already presented a Memorial Plaque to Frank III for his Father's service, and he is very appreciative. We are hopeful that he and Janet will attend our 2014 Charleston Reunion which has his interest. Frank also stated in emails to Bill and I that with our help, he has been able to find out more about his Father in a week than he ever found out in his lifetime! It has been like putting a puzzle together, and we have connected a lot of the pieces! There is still more to find and we welcome any comments or stories from his 1944-45 Sea Poacher shipmates.

# **MEMBERSHIP JULY 2013**

Robert Abbott	William Donnelan	Mike Kassinger	<b>Charles Rager</b>	Larry Weinfurter
Robert Acor	<b>Charles Donnelly</b>	Allen Katen	Dewey Reed	Ray Wengrzyn
Charles Ahler	Merlyn Dorrheim	David Keffeler	Larry Reiche	James Weston
Dewey Akins	William Dougherty	Gerald Keffer	Zelda Richwine	Richard Whitmire
Paul Allers	Jack Dubbs	Kenneth Kile	<b>David Richter</b>	Olin Williams
Peter Amunrud	Bill Dukacz	Chuck Kilgore	Dick Riggar	Lanny Yeske
David Andres	Dan Dybala	Terry Kleineweber	Roy (Luke) Riley	Lee Yonts
Ted Anthony	Richard Earl	Terry Kopansky	David Ringland	Hope Young
Ed Ashedon	Martha D. Easley	Ray Krivascy	Robert Ritz	Jerry Young
Charles Auclair	Daniel Eberhardt	Richard Laake	Nick Romano	Robert Young
Les Axford	Fred Edwards	Troy Law	Agnes Romeo	
Vernon Barnett	Leon Eggleston	Robert Lawrence	Salvatore Rosina	
Russell Bauer	Richard Elliott	Carroll Lawson	Robert Roth	THINK
Amelia Beers	David Elmore	Gail LeBlanc	Martin Ruch	1 1111 117
Harvey Benson	Jack Ensminger	Frank Lederer	Marcelle Rull	
Carol Bergs	Ellwood Erickson	Ted Lee	Kathy Saeli	REUNION
Truman Bernhard	Garl Eubank	James Lemmerman	John Savory	RECITION
Richard Bernoteit	Francis Evans	John Love	Herman Scallan	
Charles M. Birck	<b>Buster Flaskas</b>	Jerry Loveless	<b>Bob Schindhelm</b>	C
Douglas Bishop	Robert Ford	Nathan Lundy	Karl Schipper	
Stanley Bissen	Dante Fortini	Bill Luttrell	Ron Schnars	$\mathbf{H}$
James Blackmon	Richard Fox	JJ Lynch	Russell Schondorf	$\mathbf{A}$
Kenneth Bonnell	Ron Fraley	John Mach	<b>Donald Schwartz</b>	
George Boyajian	Harold Gall	Charlann Madsen	William Sharp	R
Bob Bradley	Larry Garrett	Ken Manion	Ben Sheldon	L
Fred Brattain	Barbara Geddes	Mark Markham	Harry Sherman	
John Brill	Louise Gentry	Ann Matheny	Delvin Smith	${f E}$
Deidre Bridewell	Ed Gibbons	Earl Mathews	John Smith	S
Bill Brinkman	William Gibson	John Mazjun	Rick Smock	
Leroy Broadbent	Lyle Gillette	Jim McClanahan	John Snook	T
William Buckley	Ron Godwin	Buster McCollum	Fred Socha	<b>0</b>
James Burgett	Billy Gorsuch	Karen McCommas	John Sohl	N
Warren Burkett	Jack Graham	Carl McCutcheon	Bill Sokoloski	1
Russell Burrows	David Green	Daniel McLaren	Vincent Sottile	
Frank Calderone	John Greenville	James McNerney	Richard Stickney	SOUTH
Richard Carlson	Lillian Guilbault	Jack Merrill	Marty Stokes	500111
Dick Carney	Tom Haire	Ty Merritt	Chuck Strand	
Leo Carr	Jim Halbert	Mark Mordecai	Evelyn Strunk	CAROLINA
Kent Carroll	Carol Hale	Joe Murdoch	Tom Sugden	CAROLINA
John Chaich	John Hallam	Anna Murphy	Robert Sumner	
James Clark	Dave Harms	Lester Murray	Glenn Suttle	<b>APRIL</b>
Norm Clark	William Hayes	Joe Musgrave	Terry Tague	AIKIL
Richard Clubb	Carl Headland	Gary Nagle	Chester Taylor	
Ralph Cobb	Frances Heckroth	Jon Nagle	Ed Thompson	2014
Cal Cochrane	Bill Hellmer	Jack Nims	Ron Thompson	2011
Lawrence Colwell	Bob Henry	Charles O'Baker	James Thompson	
William Cook	Marjorie Hickman	Julius O'Bannon	Thomas Thompson	***
James Cooney	Dick Holtz	James Ochs	Richard Trench	
Billy Cowart	Billy Howerton	John O'Grady	James Tryon	
Bill Crismon	Jerry Houchens	Paul Ogg	John Tulodeski	YOU
Walter Culp	Harry Huggins	William Parhamenko	Albert Turbeville	
Jolene Darnold	C.R. Humphries	Ron Patterson	Tony Tuttobene	
James Demming	Rodney Ihrig	Charles Peppler	Ed Urban	$\mathbf{ALL}$
Richard Dempsey	William H. Jackson	Dale Petersen	Fred Vavra	
Tom Deuley	Mary Jennison	Tom Polen	Edward Voloka	
Floyd Dickerson	Arnold Johnson	James Powers	Don Waldrop	COME!
Betty Dickey	Gerald Joseph	Henry Primeaux	John Walton	
William Districk	Ivan Ioslin	Iganna Rabusa	Arna Wainfurtar	

Jeanne Rabuse

**Arne Weinfurter** 

William Dietrich

Ivan Joslin

# REPORT FROM 406 ASSOCIATION TREASURER HUBERT JACKSON

#### **BEGINNING BALANCE ON 10 NOVEMBER 2012**

Memorial Fund	\$1,884.50
Humanitarian Fund	\$1,420.00
General Fund	\$17,638.72
Bank Balance	\$20,943.22

<b>Debit Activity</b>	Check#	Amount	Purpose
December 2012	324	134.55	Postage for Newsletter
	325	412.05	Printing of Newsletter
January and February 2013		No Debit Activity	
March 2013	326	73.00	Printing Supplies and Stamps
	327	86.94	Postage for Newsletter
	328	333.83	Printing of Newsletter
April 2013		No Debit Activity	

<b>Deposit Activity</b>	Date	Amount	Purpose	To
December 2012	12/12	113.00	Ship Stores	General Fund
	12/12	21.00	Donation	Memorial Fund
January 2013	1/10	44.00	Ship Stores and dues	General Fund
February 2013	2/14	155.00	Dues	General Fund
March 2013	3/1	570.00	2014 Reunion Fee	General Fund
	3/11	570.00	2014 Reunion Fee	General Fund
April 2013	4/4	570.00	2014 Reunion Fee	General Fund

#### **ENDING BALANCE ON 1 MAY 2013**

Memorial Fund	\$1,905.50
Humanitarian Fund	\$1,420.00
General Fund	\$18,620.35
Bank Balance	\$21,945.85

# **SEA POACHER NOW ON FACEBOOK**

We are there. It includes our history, photos, videos, web site referral, and reunions. The address is: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/pages/USS-Sea-Poacher-Association/531993913528264">http://www.facebook.com/pages/USS-Sea-Poacher-Association/531993913528264</a>. Check it out!

And the credit goes to Ron and Rich Rasmussen, sons of Sea Poacher shipmate Richard Rasmussen, SC1 (TM) 45-46 who also made our 4<sup>th</sup> war patrol. He went on eternal patrol on Christmas Day 1979, but never told his sons much about his service during WWII. Rich was a Torpedoman and the stories went with him. Their Mother said he was afraid his sons were too young and would not understand or appreciate what it was he did. In any case, he was always a hero in their eyes.

On their own, Ron and Rich volunteered to do this Facebook assignment for us and the Board unanimously concurred. Ron served as a Navy Aviation Machinist Mate in the 1980s. He then went into law enforcement and is currently a Federal Agent in West Palm Beach, Florida. He apparently missed the military and joined the Army Reserve. He is currently a Cargo Specialist with the local 623rd Transportation Company. Rich served in the U.S. Coast Guard and is now Vice President for Member Relations with the Florida Hospital Association in Tallahassee. Both are planning to be at our 2014 Reunion in Charleston. Thank them there and at <a href="mailto:Ronrasmussen1@earthlink.net">Ronrasmussen1@earthlink.net</a> and <a href="mailto:rich@fha.org">rich@fha.org</a>. We are now in an entirely new area!

# **OUR OWN DEEP DIVER**

Jacque Cousteau and the Calypso in 1971, made the Great Blue Hole on Lighthouse Reef (43 miles offshore Belize) famous for divers. As one of the ten top diving sites in the world, it is a large submarine sinkhole 984 feet across and 407 foot deep. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is for experienced divers only as others have lost their lives there. In 2012, Discovery Channel ranked it #1 on its list of "The 10 Most Amazing Places on Earth."

Our own Terry Kopansky, a PADI Certified Master Diver, just reported on it in late 2012 as scuba diving has long been a passion of his. His group, World Dive Buddies, first enjoyed a long boat ride to the site where the surrounding waters are a relatively shallow 60 to 80 feet which reflects a light blue turquoise color in sharp contrast to the more foreboding dark blue water contained within the Blue Hole. The perfect circle of the Great Blue Hole is broken in a couple of places allowing the boat to anchor inside on the edge.





This was considered to be a deep dive and attention was needed to the critical technical aspects of descending, ascending, depth, and bottom time. We were reminded to inflate our Buoyancy Control Device to slow the descent and to release air on the ascent. We also had to periodically stop on our ascent to allow nitrogen bubbles to escape our bodies, thus preventing the bends. Our descent took us over a sloping area of white sand until we peered over the edge of the Blue Hole. As you drift out over it and look down the dark blue fades to black and with no bottom in sight. You have the feeling of flying or floating in space. The inside wall is your one and only reference point. At a depth of 130 feet we encountered giant stalactites confirming the existence of an ancient cave system. As we swam among them we noticed several good sized black tip reef sharks lazily swimming and not interested in divers who were invading their world. There were also some big bad barracudas. The dive master told us he didn't want anyone to dive deeper than 130 feet, and if you did, you bought the beer. Unintentionally, according to Terry, he managed to drop to 144 feet. He described it much like a very cloudy day. Flashlights were not needed, and he was more than happy to buy the beer.





Terry noted that scuba diving isn't a sport for everyone, but with the proper instruction, good equipment, and a reputable dive operation, it can safely be enjoyed and open up a most magical world. He is a true submariner. He was with us in 2009 Peru all the way waiting to be adopted, drank for his dolphins at the 2010 Branson Reunion, ran the SAPO Game/Silent Auction at the 2012 San Antonio Reunion, last month visited Growler (SSG-577) in New York City proudly wearing his Sea Poacher gold dolphins, and plans to be in Charleston in 2014. Bravo Zulu Shipmate Terry!

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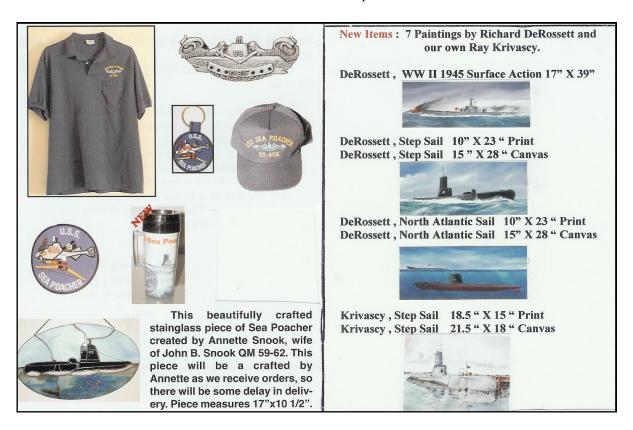
# PRESIDENT'S REPORT-BILL BRINKMAN

- **1. Dues**: We have 214 Life and 28 Regular members. If you're a Life Member or have paid your 2013 dues, thank you. If not, please pay \$10 for each year or become a Life Member for \$100. Life Members no longer get annoying letters from me or our Treasurer Hubert Jackson, receive a free patch, and we continue Life Membership status for your widow. Make checks payable to Sea Poacher Association and mail to me at 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466 or email me at <a href="mailto:seapoacher@austin.rr.com">seapoacher@austin.rr.com</a> with questions.
- **2.** Address and e-mail changes: Please send us your latest mailing and e-mail addresses. Remember, it is our Association policy to not show your mailing address and telephone number on our newsletters or our website. When shipmates request them, we do put them in touch with you.
- **3. Response to newsletter by e-mail?** In April we asked 185 members of the Association to join 57 other members in receiving this newsletter by email to reduce our expenditure of over \$2,000 for publishing and mailing via the Postal Service. There has been some response but we need more!
- **4. Sea Poacher Memorial Fund:** When a shipmate passes on, our Association presents to the next of kin a Memorial Plaque. The framed and matted picture of Sea Poacher underway at sunset includes a Final Prayer and indicates the service years. Funding for this stands alone, so we appreciate check contributions made out to Sea Poacher Association and mailed to me. Please indicate "Memorial Fund" on your check.
- **5. USSVI Sea Poacher Base MK 16 Torpedo:** Jack Merrill and the Base worked hard on this and now have one on display at the Roy Gallemore Submarine Veterans Memorial at Bartow, FL. It is on loan from the Naval Museum in Keyport, Washington. Check it out at website http://www.newschief.com/article/20130318/NEWS/130319092/1003/news01? Also find out their future plans for the Sea Poacher Base. Congratulations to all of you at the Base!
- **6. Branson Reunion:** This event takes place from 8-12 November 2013. See the April 2013 Newsletter for details and how to register for this always fun event. If you have any questions at all, call Joe Murdoch at 239-260-1529.
- **7. Sea Owl Reunion:** We have been invited by President Roy Purtell TM66-69 to attend their Reunion in Cleveland from 29 Aug—1 Sep 2013. Lin and I will be there for certain. It will be fun and do let me know of your interest.
- **8. Sea Poacher War Patrollers:** A special invitation was extended in April to the 18 shipmates (with addresses) who made war patrols on Sea Poacher to attend our 2014 National Reunion in Charleston. We are hopeful some will attend and share their stories not only with us but a few sons of their shipmates who are planning to attend.
- 9. Watertight-A New Submarine Book. From Hubert Jackson. Sea Wolf's Karl Heckman has recently published it. From a Rag Hat's humorous perspective, check the trailer at the following website <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?">http://www.youtube.com/watch?</a> = HnKhywNQuQE&context=C44b5b10ADvjVQa1PpcFMUeL6q73IYmjdDH4qkt3Xhaxumyv-iamA=
- **10. Submarine Chronicle from History Channel.** From Bill Buckley. Here is 50 minutes of submarine development with emphasis on the Trident Boat Pennsylvania. Done by both the British and Americans. It is worth your time. Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=VtNT9W0D2Pc. Another good site for analysis of WWII submarine losses is http://www.history.navy.mil/library/online/sublosses intro.html#chron.
- 11. Operation Storm: Japans Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of WWII by John Geoghegan. Another from Bill Buckley. It's a new book with fantastic reviews. Find it at amazon.com.
- **12. Submarine and Other Graveyards.** From Tom Polen. Fascinating photos/stories of 10 graveyards for submarines, aircraft, ships, trains, tanks, etc. Do a search for Ten Unique Graveyards, or if just interested in submarines go to http://1800recycling.com/2011/09/cold-war-submarine-recycling-graveyard-russia-kola-peninsula/
- **13. Free Dental Work for Retirees in Okinawa.** From JJ Lynch. It is free and fast over there. He's had lots of fillings and crowns done at no cost. He also gets to visit his grandkids. Just get a Space A flight out of Jacksonville.
- **14. Electric Boat Remembers Thresher.** From John Savory. Excellent tribute with photos of all hands lost. Go to http://www.gleb.com/news/ebnews\_2013\_03.pdf
- **15. Submarine Plaques for Sale.** COB Ken Henry has several at \$40 each including Entemedor, Tench, Trutta, Archerfish (2), and Tusk (2). If interested: agss311@bellsouth.net or 352-465-9185.

### **SEA POACHER SHIP'S STORE**

Richard DeRosset has done paintings showing Sea Poacher with the Step Sail and during the Cuban Missile Crises with the North Atlantic Sail for which we have prints and high quality canvas reproductions. He has also done a third painting of the 406 showing a gun battle with the Japanese in 1945.

Our own Ray Krivascy TM 1952-1953 has painted Sea Poacher at the pier in 1952 which he gave to Captain William Gibson at his change of command in 1953. We also have prints and canvas copies of it. All come unframed and prices include shipping/postage. Make a copy of the below form, fill it out, and mail it with your check payable to Bill Brinkman at 4500 Tiffany Nicole Street, Round Rock, TX 78665-9466. Check out the other items also available from our Ship's Store.



Items	Quantity	Price	Total
Key Chain		\$3.00	
Diesel Boat Forever Pin		3.00	
Ship Patch		5.50	
Ball Cap		14.00	
Plastic Mugs		12.00	
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (w/o pockets)		22.00	
Golf Shirt Sizes M, L, XL & 2XL (with pockets)		25.00	
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Step Sail		20.00	
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas Step Sail		30.00	
Painting DeRossett 10x23 print Cuba		20.00	
Painting DeRossett 15x28 canvas Cuba		30.00	
Painting DeRossett 17x39 canvas WWII		40.00	
Painting Krivacsy 15x18 print Step Sail		20.00	
Painting Krivacsy 18x21.5 canvas Step Sail		35.00	
Stained Glass Sea Poacher		110.00	
Dolphin Vest chains, gold or silver		25.00	
We Remember Sea Poacher Book +Addendum (on CD)		15.00	
TOTAL			

## **NEW LOUISIANA SUBMARINE MEMORIAL**



Marty EN54-56 and Enola Stokes at the new Submarine Golet (SS-361) Memorial in Metairie. Golet, sponsored by Louisiana, departed on her Second War Patrol and was never heard from again. See the New Orleans Time Picayune on 24 March 2013. Some quotes from attendees including our own Herman Scallon FN53-56: "Regardless of when you served, if you were on a submarine, its like being a member of a fraternity. And you always remember those who lost their lives while serving." The Memorial says it very well: GOLET-STILL ON PATROL!

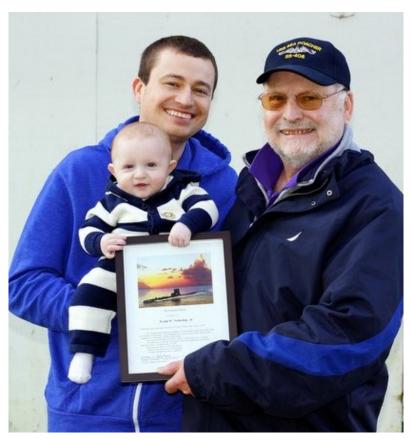
# SEA POACHER MEMORIAL PLAQUES



Bob Sumner BT60-63 presents the Sea Poacher Memorial Plaque to Charlann Madsen, wife of Anton (Tony) Madsen QMC68-69 at Kelso, Washington. Tony departed for eternal patrol on 10 September 2012.



Twenty years later, David (Bob) Ringland IC3 65-67 (right) and George (Kirker) Boyajian EM2 44-49 (left) present the Sea Poacher plaque to widow Jean Crawford and daughter Melissa Carty on 28 April 2013 in Portsmouth, RI, in memory of Executive Officer LCDR William Crawford 45-48 who entered eternal patrol in 1993. This was the day Bob also retired from Invensys Controls after 43 years. George, one of our plank owners, still works for the New England Patriots and is wearing his Super Bowl ring. A story on this will follow in a later issue.



Frank Nettleship V, IV and III in Lincoln City, OR for Frank (Wes) Junior EMC 44-45 who entered eternal patrol on 26 October 1953. See Pages 3-4 for details. This is 60 years later. We do not want to miss anything.

#### **SEA POACHER ASSOCIATION**

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**Left:** Confederate States Submarine Hunley from stern looking forward. Note the two conning towers and diving planes forward. On display in Charleston and part of our 2014 Reunion tour.

**Right:** A view of Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston not far from the Submariner's Graveyard and three Hunley crew internments. The site of our Tolling of the Bells Ceremony on 2 May 2014.



